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27 February 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director (Research)

SUBJECT : Special Technical Analysis of 201-H
(Ring Report)

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REF ID: A66120 : [] 0031-63 dated 14 February 1963,
same subject

1. The study requested in reference memorandum has been initiated. It is our intent to extend the study to include other systems of both search and technical intelligence types.

2. The need for long range planning for the CORONA program is becoming increasingly imperative as emphasis is being shifted from MAINT activities. Therefore, procurement of long lead time items is necessary at an early date, e.g., vehicles and camera developments. Decision dates will be established in the study.

3. There is a need for development of covert launch, operation and recovery. The comparison of such capability with the overt CORONA launches will be the subject of separate correspondence.

4. An outline of the study is attached. It is estimated that preliminary information will be available about 29 March, based on data available in our files or on hand in contractor facilities. Visits will be made to Eastman Kodak, Itok, and LMSC to verify correctness of data on hand here. This preliminary report will also contain recommendations for additional contractor efforts (analysis and measurement) necessary to complete the study.

5. With regard to the specific questions:

5.1 Status of cross calibration on 201 and H system: available data is being assembled. Cross calibration is difficult because of differences in test facilities and requirements of special test facilities for each of these systems. Available data on roughly comparable, low contrast tests shows about 100 lines/mm for 201 and 140 lines/mm for H.

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5.2 (a) Poor T value of 201: the reflectivity of the mirrors will provide one basic limitation. This question will be investigated further.

(b) Film type 50-206: resolution is less than the 90-132 used in W now; gain would be in vibration effect and smear reduction. Insufficient data is available to adequately assess amount of material degraded by smear. In slow lens systems, e.g., 201, Leynard, the probable gains are more significant.

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☐
Technical Analysis and Evaluation Staff
(Special Activities)

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Development Division
OSA-DD/R

Attachment:

Study Outline

DD/OSA/☐:rel 25X1A

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